

September 3, 2023
14th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE "Prelude Op. 28, No. 15" Chopin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Ps. 118:1
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Every generous act is a gift from God, Jas. 1:17-18
who gives birth to us through the word.
God said to Moses: I am who I am. Exod. 3:14-15
This is the name of the Lord forever.
Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+HYMN: GTG #331 NATIONAL HYMN
"God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

CALL TO CONFESSION Isa. 43:2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Ps. 51

Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out our transgressions.
**In your abundant love and mercy,
forgive us, O God.**
For we know our transgressions,
and our sin is ever before us.
**In your abundant love and mercy,
forgive us, O God.**
Against you, you alone, have we sinned,
and done what is evil in your sight.
**In your abundant love and mercy,
forgive us, O God.**
Create in us a clean heart, O God!
Place a new and right spirit within us!
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS Col. 2:12
... In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN: GTG #69 HERE I AM (SCHUTTE)
"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am, Lord)"

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

+ Those who are able may stand. 1

Young children are dismissed to Kids Church

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Luke 13:29; 24:30-31

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts!
We lift them to the Lord!
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION 1 Cor. 11:23-26

COMMUNION "Let Us Break Bread Together" LET US BREAK BREAD

*All are welcome at the table of the Lord.
The elements will be passed through the pews.
A gluten-free option is available
on the table at the rear of the sanctuary.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We give thanks to you, O God,
for you have fed us like a shepherd
and gathered us to your breast.
Now lead us forth to do your will,
feed your sheep, and show your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Older children are dismissed to Kids Church

INVITATION TO OFFERING 2 Cor. 9:6

OFFERTORY "New Song" L. Johnson

+RESPONSE: GTG #606 OLD HUNDREDTH
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The Heidelberg Catechism*
(Germany, 1563)

37. What do you understand by the fact that Jesus "suffered"?
**That during his whole life on earth, but especially at the end,
Christ sustained in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin
of the whole human race. This he did in order that, by his suffering
as the only atoning sacrifice, he might deliver us, body and soul,
from eternal condemnation, and gain for us God's grace,
righteousness, and eternal life.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 3:1-15 O.T. page 39

GTG = *Glory to God* (purple) 2

PSALM Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b O.T. page 427

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Romans 12:9-21 N.T. page 124

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 16:21-28 N.T. page 14

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE *Matt. 11:4*
Go and tell everyone what you have seen and heard.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON "I AM Has Sent Me To You" Rev. Bill Pinches

+HYMN: GTG #52 "When Israel Was in Egypt's Land" GO DOWN MOSES

+BLESSING *Isa. 6:3*
May the blessing of the triune God—
holy, holy, holy Lord—
be with you now and always.
Amen!

+CHARGE *Luke 10:21*
Go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Thanks be to God!

+CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: GTG #748 TALLIS' CANON
"Go with Us, Lord"

POSTLUDE "Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him" Blake

**You are invited to join us
for fellowship and refreshments
after worship in the Memorial Room.**
It is not necessary to remain seated during the postlude.

SERVING US TODAY

Guest Organist: Laura Johnson
Liturgist: Camille Subject
Greeters: Susan Chien and Eva Schlenner
Communion Servers: Ron Dlouhy, Jane Hamelink, and Mary Ozee
Sound: Marty Subject
Livestream: Timothy Pinches
Security: Will Ozee

Today's flowers are given by
Kathleen and Dale Miihlbach
in memory of Ann & Harry Hallenbeck
and Opal & Delbert Miihlbach

The rose on the table in the chancel
is to celebrate the birth of Libby Grace Reilly,
granddaughter of Debbie and Coley Johnson,
born on August 22

TWC = *The Worshiping Church* (red) 3

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#50. The Letter of Tears:

Still in Ephesus, Paul writes a strongly-worded letter to the church in Corinth that was not preserved. It is mentioned in 2 Cor. 2:3-4 and 7:8. (c. AD 54)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 91. Why should you obey God's law?

Not to win God's love, for God already loves me. Not to earn my salvation, for Christ has earned it for me. Not to avoid being punished, for then I would obey out of fear. With gladness in my heart I should obey God's law out of gratitude, for God has blessed me by it and given it for my well-being.

CREDITS

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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MINISTERS
All Members

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick
Spiritual Growth Director: Lori Filka
Office Manager: Sheren Wright
Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse
Choral Music Accompanist / Organist: Feng Kang
Office Assistant: Nancy Sue MacDonald
Sexton: Eric VanDyke
Adult Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Michelle Mackey
Child Care: Jill Castle, Aimee Cruickshank, Isaiah Hawkins, Hannah Koutz, Sam Pinches, Lucy Simons

ELDERS

Class of 2023: Bruce Archer (clerk), Tim Hammond, Mary Ozee, Steve Sowles.
Class of 2024: Jerry Ambrose, Lucinda Davenport, Loren Harkness, Tonya Seely.
Class of 2025: Doreen Chapman, Anita Cote, Mary Garland Jackson, Monte Shuck.

DEACONS

Class of 2023: Lisa Castle, Jay Harkness, Vern Schrock.
Class of 2024: Donna Hujsak, Issie Nielsen, Camille Subject.
Class of 2025: Marge Clarke, Julie Dart, Timothy Pinches, Tom Seely.

DAILY PRAYER

Book of Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2018)

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday Church office closed in observance of Labor Day
Wednesday Lunch Packing for Advent House 10:30 am
Prayer Fellowship 12:00 pm
Bell Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm
Choir rehearsal 7:10 pm
Thursday Administration Committee 7:00 pm
Board of Deacons 7:00 pm
Friday Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath

BIRTHDAYS

Tami Chapman Sept. 3
Ron Dlouhy Sept. 3
Eleanor Simpson Sept. 7
Jenny Bond Sept. 9

**Mason
First Presbyterian Church**

**September 3, 2023
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Moses and the Burning Bush
Fresco in an ancient synagogue at Dura-Europos, Syria
3rd century; discovered in 1932

*The fruit of the Spirit
is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity,
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
(Galatians 5:22-23)*